

Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting
Lebanon Town Hall
April 25, 2008 - 10:00 AM

MINUTES

First Selectman Joyce Okonuk called the Special Meeting to order at 10:02 AM. Selectman John Bendoraitis, Selectman Russ Blakeslee and Admin Assistant Mary Ellen Wiczorek were present. There was no audience.

1.0 Motion by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY 2008-2009 and to bring to the Annual Town Meeting. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

2.0 Selectmen reviewed the Annual Town Meeting Legal Notice. Regarding the Vo-Ag Grant Resolutions, Okonuk explained the School Business Office requested these be added as drafted by legal counsel. These Resolutions were adopted at the June 2000 Town Meeting in order to apply for a State of Connecticut Vo-Ag Grant. The State required an oversight board be in place to administer the grant funds. The school reapplied again this year for the Vo-Ag Equipment Grant and were told by the State Office of Policy and Management (OPM) that a new Resolution needs to be passed to create a new advisory board for every new grant applied for. Although the work has been completed, town meeting must accept the original grant and furthermore, in order to apply for new grants, the original committee established to oversee the grant, must be disbanded and a new committee reappointed. The school's Business Manager will be present at Town Meeting to explain and answer questions.

Selectman Bendoraitis stated he would like the Ethics Code item to appear as a question at the Referendum. Okonuk voiced concerns that residents will vote without comprehension of the document. Okonuk re-expressed her concerns about losing volunteers on boards, commissions, and committees due to the complexities of the Ethics Code. Blakeslee agreed with Okonuk's concerns and re-stated his opposition to the document and bringing this item to Referendum. Motion by Blakeslee, seconded by Okonuk to call the Annual Town Meeting for May 5, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lyman Memorial High School as presented. Vote: 2 yes (Okonuk and Blakeslee); 1 no (Bendoraitis). Motion carried.

4.0 Motion by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the request from Windham Christian Academy to hold a fundraiser walk-a-thon on the Lebanon Green on May 5, 2008 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon, with a rain date of May 6, 2008. Vote: yes. Motion carried.

5.0 Motion by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the request from the Lyman Memorial High School Vo-Ag to hold a bake sale and tag sale fundraiser on April 27, 2008 at the Lebanon Green (Library and Church area) to assist a Lebanon family. Vote: yes. Motion carried.

6.0 Two quotes for refurbishing the Fire Safety Complex were received from.
1. Blakeslee Construction, Lebanon CT
2. V&H Custom Carpentry (Steve Vertefeuille), Lebanon, CT
The First Selectman will contact the two bidders to review bid quotes. No action.

7.0 Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to rescind the March 25, 2008 motion awarding Bid B to Jeff Cone for the 22 acres of hay land adjacent to the Lebanon Solid Waste Facility in the amount of \$660.00. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to award Bid B to Shawn McGuillicuddy for the 22 acres of hay land adjacent to the Lebanon Solid Waste Facility in the amount of \$601.00 per year for a 2 year contract. Vote: yes. Motion carried.

Selectmen discussed the cutting of hay at the Senior Center off Dr. Manning Drive. Despite the construction at the Senior Center, there are areas on the land that can be hayed. Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to contact the two successful bidders (McCaw and McGuillicuddy) asking them to submit quotes for approximately 10+/- acres of hay at the Lebanon Senior Center located off Dr. Manning Drive. Lump sum bids for a one-year contract should be given to the Selectman's Office by 6:00 pm on May 6, 2008. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

8.0 Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis that following a review by legal counsel, the petition submitted to the Lebanon Town Clerk by resident Timothy Thompson entitled "Petition For Ethical Open Government Ordinance" will not be added to the agenda at the Annual Town Meeting as it is deemed to be in violation of State law by impeding the legislative authority by the legislative body, the Town Meeting. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

9.0 Motion by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis following a review by legal counsel, the petition submitted to the Lebanon Town Clerk by resident Timothy Thompson entitled "Lebanon P&Z Petition" will not be added to the agenda at the Annual Town Meeting as it is deemed to be not a legitimate and proper purpose and contrary to State law. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

10.0 Selectmen continued discussion on the Computer/Server Maintenance bids. Bendoraitis called references on both bidders. Positive reports were acknowledged for both bidders. Bendoraitis stated the Computer Tamers are good at a local level, but do not perform any escalation processes. Information appears to be kept in the technician's heads and the town has seen little to no documentation and their technical expertise appears capped out. Blakeslee reiterated his desire to keep a local business and the fact that their proposal offers "unlimited hours". Okonuk's concerns are that the connectivity problem in the Finance office still exists after ten months 10 months and perhaps a new set of eyes (and expertise) would help solve the problem. Okonuk agreed with Bendoraitis' comments in that the Computer Tamers have been unable to solve the problem and appear they are unable to provide any other technical support to correct the issue. All Selectmen agreed that even though Walker Systems may be a little more costly, that having someone new look at the whole picture could be beneficial. Bendoraitis discussed that the first three months could possibly go over the proposal fees, but possibly the Town could suggest a counter proposal in that whatever is over for the first three months, could be split equally as part of a "learning curve". Regarding the service rate, this can be "banked". If the town does not use all 8 hours (as stated in the proposal), then the next month's invoice is reduced. The Board discussed the difference between the one year and two year contract—with the two-year being more cost effective. The RFP provides a 30-day notice by either party to end contract, so the Town would not be "locked" in should they not be satisfied with the service delivery. Selectmen agreed they would like the opportunity to discuss and review criteria in the Walker proposal and discuss again at a future meeting. No action.

11.0 Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to adjourn the meeting at 12:28 pm. Vote, yes. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce R. Okonuk
First Selectman